

patch of yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) in flower, and here, on one of the heads, another unexpected sight greeted me in the shape of a fresh ♀ of the very local and beautiful longhorn moth *Nemophora fasciella* F. — a species never before seen, I believe, at Blackheath (certainly not by me), though I had taken it not very far away at Abbey Wood (1963, *Ent. Rec.*, 75: 62); its foodplant, *Ballota nigra*, was close by. Some of the yarrow heads were tenanted by the Tortricoid *Dichrorampha gueneana* Obr. (= *politana* auct.), which was fairly active in the warm sunshine. (I had previously found the rather similar *Chrysanthemum*-feeding *D. alpinana* Tr. in another part of the field, in evening flight about a mass of the large white garden daisies.) *Aglais urticae* L. in some plenty jostled the skippers for possession of the yarrow and thistle heads, together with numbers of *Maniola jurtina* L.; the former was extremely erratic in this district in 1977, and indeed has been so for many years. Single specimens of *Platyptilia pallidactyla* Haw. and *Sitochroa verticalis* L. were disturbed.

The recent appearance of *T. lineola* and *N. fasciella* at Blackheath would seem to indicate a westward movement on the part of both species in North Kent during the past six years or so, analogous perhaps to the more pronounced and less recent westward spread of the Geometrid *Idaea vulpinaria* H.-S. — A. A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London, SE7 8QG.

THE LEAD-COLOURED DRAB (*ORTHOSIA POPULETI* F.) IN WEST KENT AND EAST SUSSEX. — I have this year been collecting at Brokes Wood in Southborough, Kent, and there recorded three specimens of this moth. I have in the past recorded it from here (Wadhurst), and at Dallington, Sussex, but never in any numbers, and consider the species rather scarce in these parts. — A. E. C. ADAMS, Perrins Farm, Woods Green, Wadhurst, East Sussex, TN5 6QN, 16.iv.1978.

OBSERVATIONS UPON TWO SPECIES OF SPRING LEPIDOPTERA IN HAILSHAM, NR. EASTBOURNE: *APOCHEIMA HISPIDARIA* D. & S. AND *LYCIA HIRTARIA* CLERCK. — The latter species although not common, does occur in several localities in the area. Scattered individuals were taken in Abbot's Wood on 13th April, 1977 and quite a number were taken in the area of Friston, near Jevington. This species is not recorded in Adkin, *The Moths of Eastbourne* (1930), which covered an area of seven miles radius from the centre of the town.

The former species has only been recorded from Abbot's Wood, and there is reasonable justification for saying that it is no longer common in that locality. Only a single specimen has been taken in several years collecting, on 22nd February, 1977. More recently, however, a strong colony has been investigated at Bushy Wood, near Hailsham, and the following occurrences were noted in 1978: 28th February (3), 4th March (1) and 12th March (9). It was also recorded from Park Wood, near Hailsham on 6th March, 1978, when two more specimens were taken. — MARK HADLEY, 7 Beverington Close, Eastbourne, E. Sussex, BN21 2SB. [It is perhaps worth noting that